

***El Diario* names USAID “Organization of the Year” for 2008**

The Bolivian newspaper *El Diario* named USAID the “organization of the year” for the second year running. On December 30, Acting USAID/Bolivia Mission Director Peter Natiello visited *El Diario* to receive the award and to discuss USAID's work in support of Bolivia's development during 2008. On December 31st, *El Diario* announced the award on its front page, as well as on the front page of its special annual edition, and included the interview with Natiello, plus a fact sheet on USAID accomplishments inside its regular edition. *El Diario* is Bolivia's oldest national daily with the second largest circulation in La Paz.



USAID acting director Peter Natiello with “*El Diario*” General Manager Jorge Carrasco Guzman

Key USAID accomplishments:

- In 2008, USAID-assisted partners provided preventative vaccinations for three childhood diseases to 32,000 children and prenatal care to 150,000 women.
- In 2008, the export value of USAID-assisted products from the Yungas and the Cochabamba Tropics regions surpassed \$35 million. USAID's integrated alternative development program benefited over 13,000 Yungas and Chapare families in 2008.
- In 2008, more than 6,600 Bolivians became clients of formal financial institutions in areas that did not previously have access to financial services as a direct result of USAID assistance.
- In 2008, low income citizens in peri-urban presented 28,613 cases to 11 USAID-supported Integrated Justice Centers (IJC). Of these, 22,379 (78%) were successfully. Over 60% of the IJC users were women.
- Over the past seven years, through well targeted food security programs, USAID has helped increase small farmer incomes in the poorest areas of Bolivia from \$683 to \$2588 and reduce chronic malnutrition by approximately 17% (versus an approximately 1% decrease in non-Title II areas).
- Working closely with key stakeholders over the last several years, USAID helped Bolivia to become the world's leader in forest certification, with more than 2 million hectares of forest voluntarily certified; forestry-related products have reached over 10% of Bolivia's non-traditional exports value.
- With USAID assistance through a dynamic Bolivian NGO, more than 110 local firms are now applying clean production technologies that reduce pollution, improve efficiencies and increase the bottom line.

[Link to “*El Diario*” December 31st 2008 digital edition](#)